

General instructions to be followed to pass essay

1- Spend time on rightly comprehension of the topic, you won't pass the essay unless and until you addressed the asked part

Outline: Disaster Management in Pakistan:

Challenges & Way forward

2- Try to make your main heading in the outline from the words in the question statement

2. Challenges to managing disasters

3- Try to add hook in the introduction. The length of introduction must be of 2 sides

a. Inadequate and decaying infrastructure

4- your topic sentence in your argument must be aligned with the ending sentence

b. Reliance on reactive approaches rather than proactive ones.

5- Avoid firstly, secondly, thirdly etc. in outline

c. Institutional fragmentation and overlapping mandates

6- add references in your arguments with proper source. Go for diversification of references

d. Weak enforcement of building codes
e. Illegal settlements in disaster-prone areas

7- Do not add new idea or point in Conclusion

f. Shortage of trained staff and equipment in disaster management authorities.

8- You won't pass the essay if make more than 4-5 grammatical mistakes

3. Way forward to disaster management in Pakistan

9- outlines that are not self explanatory or does not aligned with the essay statement are liable to mark 0 and the essay would become null and void

g. Building robust infrastructure and disaster-resilient
h. Increasing emphasis on pre-disaster strategies

10- always try to be relevant to the topic, if even your 1 or 2 arguments are irrelevant, the examiner would not pass your essay

i. Defining institutional roles and mandates of disaster management authorities
j. Ensuring strict adherence of building codes

But
e. Increasing the number of active personnel and machinery in disaster management authorities

f. Discouraging settlements in disaster-prone areas

4. Conclusion

You haven't understood the topic at all.

You are providing me the causes and ways forward of disasters instead of disasters management

Must work on your topic comprehension

Improve your phrasing and expressions

Words selection must be improved

Must attend the tutorial session for further suggestions and mistakes

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Pakistan has officially become the most vulnerable country to disasters as per a report published in 2025. This vulnerability is mainly due to its geographical location, which exposes it to climate related disasters such as the monsoon rains, the melting glaciers in the north, and the rising sea levels in the south. Although Pakistan has faced disasters almost every year since its inception, the management of disasters have been poor. The story of disaster management in Pakistan can be described as one of poor governance. It faces acute deficiency of climate disaster resilient infrastructure; it relies on reactive strategies rather than proactive ones; and

the weak enforcement of building codes coupled with unchecked settlements in disaster-prone areas compound the challenges in managing disasters in Pakistan. These challenges; however, can be overcome by adopting pre-disaster strategies, building more disaster resilient infrastructure, and equipping disaster management authorities with well-trained staff and necessary machinery. Though, Pakistan faces a multitude of challenges in managing disasters, they can be addressed by implementing strategies that strengthen both the infrastructure and human capital.

The first and the foremost challenge Pakistan faces in managing disasters is inadequate and decaying infrastructure. For instance, the

Tarbela^{dam} and Mangla dam of Pakistan, which are the largest dams, have reduced water storage capacity upto 30% due to siltation. This reduced capacity means they store less water and the excess water has to be released back into cities or rural areas thereby increasing the chances of flooding. In the same way, the lack of water reservoirs in a water-scarce country like Pakistan compounds this problem as well. As per the World Bank & Asian Development Bank, Pakistan lacks water storage capacities and can store water for only 30 days, far below the recommended threshold. Investing in adequate infrastructure, therefore, should

be government's priority.

While inadequate and decaying infrastructure is a serious problem, relying on reactive approaches to disasters is equally problematic. The disaster management authorities wait for disaster to occur and then proceed to provide relief and rehabilitation.

As per National Disaster Management Authority, during the 2022 floods, seventy percent of the budget allocated to disasters, went into providing shelter and relief to the victims. This reliance on post-disaster strategies acts as a double-edged sword. One, it forces the country to ask for more aid, increasing its external debt. Second, disaster management authorities use up

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a major chunk of budget in rehabilitation, which could instead be used to develop resilient infrastructure. Thus, reacting to disasters after they have occurred undermine disaster management strategies.

Similarly, another ^{challenge} problem in managing disasters can be credited to existing institutional fragmentation and overlapping mandates of disaster management authorities. At present, Pakistan has the NDMA, National Disaster Management Fund, IRSA, and the provincial authorities to deal with disasters. There is a lack of harmony and mandate overlap among these institutions. Federal and provincial disaster management authorities, often look up to each

other to take the first initiative. This institutional disharmony and fragmentation further compounds disaster management challenges.

Besides disharmony among institutions, the weak enforcement of building codes in major cities equally make disaster management challenging. This translates into the construction of residential and ^{Commercial} infrastructure without approval from district authorities. Such infrastructure is the most affected ~~not~~ during disasters. For instance, as per NDMA, during the 2005 earthquake in Kashmir, most of the buildings in the affected cities were built without approval ~~from~~ district authorities. This exposed the divide between construction and district

authorities.

In the same way, the illegal settlements in disaster-prone areas pose critical challenges to disaster management. For example, during the 2022 floods, settlements on riverplains of South Punjab were the first ones to inundated with flood water. This not only resulted in the loss of precious lives but also infrastructure. In fact, it made the provision of relief even more challenging. Disaster management authorities had to push against raging currents to save human lives and cattles. Therefore, managing disasters in ~~ra~~ areas vulnerable to disaster becomes an arduous task.

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In addition to the policy and structural challenges ~~in~~ disaster, the lack of trained personnel coupled with inadequate disaster-related machinery also undermine disaster management in Pakistan. For instance, ^{recently} a fire broke out in a commercial building in Quetta, Balochistan. The response from the disaster management authority was poor; the personnel lacked proper uniform and safety equipment, and the water tankers were in a state of dilapidation. ~~Thereby~~ exposing the ~~authorities~~ poor state. Therefore, the presence of well-trained staff and availability of equipment is equally important in disaster management.

While the field of disaster management is

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life with obstacles, Pakistan can still take pragmatic steps to effectively manage them. Firstly, investing in a robust and disaster-resilient infrastructure should be the first priority. It starts with expediting the construction of Diamer-Basha dam, so that Pakistan can store water to meet its energy needs, and prevent the chances of flooding.

Secondly, disaster management authorities should redirect their energies and resources into devising effective pre-disaster strategies. This involves ~~an~~ introducing impactful early warning systems and accurately predicting the likelihood of disasters. The

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NDMA along with PMH₃ ~~can~~ and Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) can collaborate on this front, and effectively communicate with farmers end-to-end for better communication in times of emergency.

Similarly, the government needs to define the roles and procedures of each disaster management authority. By doing so, it removes the conflicts arising as a result of overlapping mandates, and decreases the chances of indecision. Resultantly, authorities will be swift to act in emergency and know what to do.

At district level, the adherence to building codes is equally important in managing floods. Strict adherence calls

for following necessary procedures, obtaining permits, and on-site visits by relevant authorities before approval for construction. This ensures that buildings are well constructed and are resilient to natural calamities.

Besides compliance with building codes, maintaining a check on illegal construction and settlements on disaster-prone areas is equally important. As was witnessed during the floods in 2022 and 2025, where settlements on riverplains incurred the most losses in lives and infrastructure. Therefore, actively maintaining a check on illegal settlements on riverplains should go a long way in managing disasters.

Lastly, the increasing the number of active personnel to better respond to disasters, and the presence of well-maintained machinery can be great resource in impactful disaster management. Such measures better equip authorities to be the first responders to natural or man-made calamities, and ensure that they are under control.

In conclusion, disaster management in Pakistan faces serious challenges such as the lack of essential infrastructure, overreliance on reactionary approaches, weak enforcement of laws and ~~the~~ insufficient trained staff and machinery. However, these challenges can be addressed by proactively responding to disasters, building

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disaster-resilient infrastructure,
coupled with adherence
to laws and having a
well-trained disaster management
force. Pakistan has faced
numerous disasters since its
inception but it has come
out of them even stronger.
It is hoped that Pakistan
becomes resilient in the face
of disasters it faces.